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ABSTRACT

Data on a variety of social and economic characteristics for persons and families in the United States of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, and other Spanish origin and comparative data for the remaining population were selected from the March 1972 Bureau of the Census Current Population Survey (CPS). Revisions in the March 1972 CPS, as compared to the 1970 CPS, include the introduction of 1970 census-based population controls and metropolitan residence definition, the use of 1970 census sampling materials for part of the sample, a change in the average segment size from 6 to 4 housing units for part of the sample, and a change in the first stage ratio estimation procedure. The 10 tables contain information concerning (1) U.S. population by ethnic origin; (2) age distribution by ethnic origin; (3) characteristics of families by ethnic origin; (4) percent of the population 25 years old and over who had completed less than 5 years of school or 4 years of high school or more, by ethnic origin; (5) labor force participation of persons 16 to 64 years old, by age, sex, and ethnic origin; (6) unemployment rates for persons 16 to 64 years old, by age, sex, and ethnic origin; (7) employed men 16 years old and over, by major occupation and ethnic origin; (8) median income in 1971 by years of school completed for males 25 years old and over by ethnic origin; (9) family income in 1971 by ethnic origin; and (10) low-income status in 1971 of persons of Spanish origin for the U.S. and 5 southwestern states. A related document (1971) is ED 065 224. (HBC)

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CURRENT POPULATION REPORTS

Population Characteristics



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE • Social and Economic Statistics Administration • BUREAU OF ECONOMIC ANALYSIS

ED 070546

SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS OF PERSONS AND FAMILIES OF MEXICAN, PUERTO RICAN, AND OTHER SPANISH ORIGIN: MARCH 1972

(Advance data from March 1972 sample survey)

This report presents data on a variety of social and economic characteristics for persons and families in the United States of Mexican, Puerto Rican, and other Spanish origin. The figures come from the March 1972 Bureau of the Census Current Population Survey.¹ Detailed reports on the characteristics of persons by ethnic origin will be published later.

According to the March 1972 Current Population Survey, 9.2 million persons, or about 4.5 percent of the population identified themselves as being of Spanish origin, including 5.3 million of Mexican origin, 1.5 million of Puerto Rican origin, and about six hundred thousand Cubans. About 2.1 million heads of families were identified as being of Spanish origin.

There were 2.1 million men and 1.1 million women of Spanish origin in the labor force in March 1972; about 8 percent of these Spanish persons 16 to 64 years old were unemployed. The median income in 1971 for families of Spanish origin was \$7,500. Median family income where head worked year round full time was about \$9,596 and included about 57.0 percent of all families of Spanish origin. About 2.4 million persons of Spanish origin, a fourth of that population group, fell below the low-income level in 1971.

¹Data presented in this report are for the non-institutional population.

About one-third of the Spanish origin population 25 years old and over completed at least 4 years of high school. About one-half of persons of Spanish origin 25 to 29 years old had completed high school.

Of the 9.2 million persons of Spanish origin substantially more than half (about 60 percent) were living in the five Southwestern States of Arizona, California, Colorado, New Mexico, and Texas. About 85 percent of the 5.3 million Mexicans were living in those States as well.

The Mexican and Puerto Rican population are young with median ages around 18 years (as a result of relatively high fertility). The Cuban population, on the other hand, is substantially older with a median age of 34.1 years and essentially reflects the age composition of the persons who entered the United States from Cuba in the late 1950's and early 1960's.

Data on persons of Spanish origin for March 1971 were published in Current Population Reports, Series P-20, No. 224, "Selected Characteristics of Persons and Families of Mexican, Puerto Rican, and Other Spanish Origin: March 1971." Data for November 1969 were published in Series P-20, No. 213, "Persons of Spanish Origin in the United States: November 1969." Statistics on characteristics of persons and families are published regularly in Series P-20 of the Current Population Reports and income statistics are published in Series P-60. Data on employment and earnings are published monthly by the Department of Labor in Employment and Earnings.

The information presented in this report on Spanish origin or descent was obtained from use of the following question and instruction:

"What is ... 's origin or descent?"

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="radio"/> German | <input type="radio"/> Mexicano, Chicano |
| <input type="radio"/> Italian | <input type="radio"/> Puerto Rican |
| <input type="radio"/> Irish | <input type="radio"/> Cuban |
| <input type="radio"/> French | <input type="radio"/> Central or South American |
| <input type="radio"/> Polish | <input type="radio"/> Other Spanish |
| <input type="radio"/> Russian | <input type="radio"/> Negro |
| <input type="radio"/> English, Scot,
Welsh | <input type="radio"/> Other |
| | <input type="radio"/> Don't know |

Persons of Spanish origin were considered to be persons who chose Mexicano, Chicano, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American or other Spanish descent. They may be of any race, but 98 percent of all persons of Spanish origin were reported as white. Families of Spanish origin were identified by the origin of the head of the household.

Since the estimates in this report are based on a sample, they are subject to sampling variability. Moreover, as in all field surveys, the figures are subject to errors of response and nonreporting. All statements of comparison made in the text of this report, however, are statistically significant. This means that the chances are at least 19 in 20 that a difference identified in the text indicates a true difference in the population rather than the chance variations arising from the use of samples.

Comparability of Estimates from March 1972 CPS with Estimates for Preceding Years

The data for 1971 collected in the March 1972 Current Population Survey (CPS) are, in some

instances, not entirely comparable to figures for earlier years because of revisions in the Current Population Survey. Starting in January 1972, 1970 census-based population controls, metropolitan residence definition, and other materials were introduced into the sample and estimation procedures. The major item affecting comparability at the overall national level is the introduction of population controls based on the 1970 census. Figures for previous years are tied in with 1960 census-based population controls. Basically, these changes should have no substantial impact on summary measures, such as medians and means, and on proportional measures, such as percent distributions and poverty rates. However, the changes may have more impact on the population levels in different subgroupings such as the total number of persons or families either overall, or within some particular category.

Other revisions in the March 1972 CPS are the use of 1970 census sampling materials for part of the sample, change in the average segment size from 6 to 4 housing units for part of the sample, change in the noninterview adjustment procedure for sample areas which are SMSA's, and change in the first stage ratio estimation procedure. In general, these changes are not believed to have any significant effect on comparability with figures for earlier years. A more detailed description of these revisions appears in the Bureau of Labor Statistics report "Employment and Earnings," Vol. 18, No. 8, February 1972.

Another change in the Current Population Survey which affects occupational data only, is the inclusion of a supplemental question, "What were your most important activities or duties?" which provided additional information for classifying persons by occupation. In general, the major impact of this supplemental question was to reclassify some persons from the "managers" classification into other types of occupations (primarily into the major occupation group of "craftsmen").

Table 1. United States Population by Ethnic Origin: March 1972
(Numbers in thousands)

Origin	Total	Percent distribution
UNITED STATES		
All persons.....	204,840	100.0
Persons of Spanish origin.....	9,178	4.5
Mexican.....	5,254	2.6
Puerto Rican.....	1,518	0.7
Cuban.....	629	0.3
Central or South American.....	599	0.3
Other Spanish.....	1,178	0.5
Persons not of Spanish origin.....	195,662	95.5
FIVE SOUTHWESTERN STATES¹		
All persons.....	36,894	100.0
Persons of Spanish origin.....	5,429	14.7
Mexican.....	4,549	12.3
Other.....	880	2.4
Persons not of Spanish origin.....	31,465	85.3

¹Arizona, California, Colorado, New Mexico, and Texas.

Table 2. Age Distribution by Ethnic Origin: March 1972

(Numbers in thousands)

Age	Total population	Spanish origin			
		Total ¹	Mexican	Puerto Rican	Cuban
Total.....	204,840	9,178	5,254	1,518	629
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 5 years old.....	8.5	12.7	13.4	14.0	4.9
5 to 9 years old.....	9.2	13.8	15.0	14.7	11.6
10 to 17 years old.....	16.0	19.4	20.2	21.5	13.4
18 and 19 years old.....	3.6	3.8	4.3	2.6	3.8
20 to 24 years old.....	8.4	7.8	8.3	8.0	3.7
25 to 34 years old.....	12.9	14.2	13.3	14.8	13.8
35 to 44 years old.....	11.0	11.8	10.8	12.8	15.4
45 to 54 years old.....	11.4	8.0	7.5	5.3	14.5
55 to 64 years old.....	9.2	5.0	3.9	4.8	12.1
65 years old and over.....	9.7	3.5	3.2	2.0	3.8
Median age.....years..	28.0	20.1	18.6	17.9	31.1

¹Includes other persons of Spanish origin, not shown separately.

Table 3. Characteristics of Families by Ethnic Origin: March 1972

(Numbers in thousands)

Subject	Total population	Spanish origin		
		Total ¹	Mexican	Puerto Rican
Total family members.....	188,243	8,277	4,841	1,381
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Head.....	28.3	24.9	22.7	26.3
Male.....	25.0	20.6	19.5	18.7
Female.....	3.3	4.3	3.2	7.6
Wife of head.....	24.3	15.7	15.7	13.8
Child of head.....	42.4	53.1	55.3	55.0
Other relative.....	5.0	6.3	6.2	4.9
Total families.....	53,296	2,057	1,100	363
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
No own children under 18.....	44.8	27.4	23.0	24.2
With own children under 18.....	55.2	72.6	77.0	75.8
1 own child.....	18.9	19.8	19.8	19.2
2 own children.....	17.6	20.9	21.3	22.7
3 own children.....	10.2	12.9	12.5	13.9
4 own children.....	4.9	9.5	10.7	10.1
5 own children.....	2.1	4.9	6.9	4.8
6 or more own children.....	1.6	4.6	5.9	5.0
Average number of own children under 18 per family.....	1.22	1.89	2.11	1.97
Percent of families with female head.....	11.6	17.3	14.1	28.9
Average population per family.....	3.5	4.0	4.4	3.8

¹Includes other persons of Spanish origin, not shown separately.

Table 4. Percent of the Population 25 Years Old and Over Who Had Completed Less Than 5 Years of School or 4 Years of High School or More, by Ethnic Origin: March 1972

Years of school completed and age	Total population	Spanish origin		
		Total ¹	Mexican	Puerto Rican
COMPLETED LESS THAN 5 YEARS OF SCHOOL				
Total, 25 years old and over.....	4.6	19.3	26.7	20.2
25 to 29 years old.....	0.8	5.5	7.3	5.8
30 to 34 years old.....	1.4	8.4	12.6	8.7
35 to 44 years old.....	2.5	15.9	21.0	19.9
45 to 54 years old.....	3.4	25.1	33.1	39.9
55 to 64 years old.....	5.6	30.8	47.9	(B)
65 years old and over.....	12.2	51.3	74.8	(B)
COMPLETED 4 YEARS OF HIGH SCHOOL OR MORE				
Total, 25 years old and over.....	58.2	33.0	25.8	23.7
25 to 29 years old.....	79.8	47.6	42.9	30.9
30 to 34 years old.....	73.9	42.7	40.1	22.6
35 to 44 years old.....	66.8	35.2	28.0	27.2
45 to 54 years old.....	59.8	24.9	14.2	21.3
55 to 64 years old.....	46.7	20.6	8.8	(B)
65 years old and over.....	32.0	12.1	0.6	(B)

B Base less than 75,000.

¹Includes other persons of Spanish origin, not shown separately.

Table 5. Labor Force Participation of Persons 16 to 64 Years Old, by Age, Sex, and Ethnic Origin: March 1972

(Numbers in thousands)

Age and sex	Total popu- lation	Spanish origin		
		Total ¹	Mexican	Puerto Rican
MALE				
Number in Labor Force				
Total, 16 to 64 years old.....	52,900	2,039	1,175	295
16 to 24 years old.....	11,938	439	296	60
25 to 44 years old.....	23,267	1,108	612	182
45 to 64 years old.....	17,695	492	267	53
Percent in Labor Force				
Total, 16 to 64 years old.....	86.0	85.0	86.5	76.6
16 to 24 years old.....	68.2	64.7	70.1	53.1
25 to 44 years old.....	96.1	95.4	96.5	88.3
45 to 64 years old.....	88.2	88.0	88.1	(B)
FEMALE				
Number in Labor Force				
Total, 16 to 64 years old.....	31,877	1,055	538	108
16 to 24 years old.....	8,377	331	217	28
25 to 44 years old.....	12,593	497	241	58
45 to 64 years old.....	10,906	227	80	22
Percent in Labor Force				
Total, 16 to 64 years old.....	49.8	40.2	38.8	26.3
16 to 24 years old.....	49.9	42.7	47.1	24.3
25 to 44 years old.....	50.1	40.7	38.3	27.6
45 to 64 years old.....	49.3	36.1	27.0	25.6

B Base less than 75,000.

¹Includes other persons of Spanish origin, not shown separately.

Table 6. Unemployment Rates for Persons 16 to 64 Years Old, by Age, Sex, and Ethnic Origin: March 1972

Age and sex	Total popu- lation	Spanish origin		
		Total ¹	Mexican	Puerto Rican
MALE				
Total, 16 to 64 years old.....	6.0	7.4	7.9	8.8
16 to 24 years old.....	14.2	16.2	15.1	(B)
25 to 44 years old.....	4.0	3.9	4.3	6.3
45 to 64 years old.....	3.6	7.6	8.6	(B)
FEMALE				
Total, 16 to 64 years old.....	6.6	10.0	9.1	17.6
16 to 24 years old.....	11.9	11.5	12.4	(B)
25 to 44 years old.....	5.5	9.1	7.1	(B)
45 to 64 years old.....	3.9	10.1	6.3	(B)

B Base less than 75,000.

¹Includes other persons of Spanish origin, not shown separately.

Table 7. Employed Men 16 Years Old and Over, by Major Occupation Group and Ethnic Origin: March 1972

(Numbers in thousands)

Occupation	Total population	Spanish origin		
		Total ¹	Mexican	Puerto Rican
Total employed.....	49,401	1,890	1,088	262
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
White-collar workers.....	40.4	23.2	17.5	21.5
Professional and technical.....	14.1	6.9	4.8	2.7
Mgrs., admins., exc. farm.....	13.2	6.5	5.6	6.7
Sales workers.....	6.3	2.9	2.6	2.2
Clerical workers.....	6.9	6.9	4.5	9.9
Blue-collar workers.....	46.7	58.4	62.4	59.1
Craftsmen and kindred.....	20.7	19.7	20.9	15.1
Operatives, including transportation.....	18.7	27.2	27.2	36.8
Laborers, exc. farm.....	7.2	11.5	14.3	7.2
Farm workers.....	4.7	5.7	8.3	1.9
Farmers and farm managers.....	3.0	5.3	7.9	-
Farm laborers and foreman.....	1.6	0.4	0.4	1.9
Service workers.....	8.2	12.7	11.7	17.5

-Represents zero or rounds to zero.

¹Includes other persons of Spanish origin, not shown separately.

Table 8. Median Income in 1971 by Years of School Completed for Males 25 Years Old and Over by Ethnic Origin: March 1972

Years of school completed	Total population	Spanish origin	
		Total ¹	Mexican
Total, 25 years old and over.....	\$8,243	\$6,384	\$6,150
Elementary: 0 to 4 years	2,945	4,110	3,956
5 to 7 years.....	4,241	5,407	5,648
8 years.....	5,472	5,941	6,136
High school: 1 to 3 years.....	7,571	6,919	7,132
4 years.....	9,091	7,980	8,421
College: 1 year or more.....	11,887	9,114	9,154

¹Includes other persons of Spanish origin, not shown separately.

Table 9. Family Income in 1971 by Ethnic Origin

(Numbers in thousands. Families as of March 1972)

Total money income	Total population	Spanish origin			
		Total ¹	Mexican	Puerto Rican	Cuban
Number of families.....	53,296	2,057	1,100	363	170
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under \$3,000.....	8.3	13.8	14.9	16.9	7.9
\$3,000 to \$3,999.....	4.8	8.2	9.2	11.0	3.2
\$4,000 to \$4,999.....	5.4	8.4	7.1	10.6	11.3
\$5,000 to \$5,999.....	5.7	8.1	8.3	10.2	8.0
\$6,000 to \$6,999.....	5.5	7.2	7.0	7.7	3.5
\$7,000 to \$7,999.....	6.2	8.0	7.1	12.8	7.6
\$8,000 to \$8,999.....	12.3	13.8	15.1	9.9	11.8
\$10,000 to \$11,999.....	12.5	11.9	11.8	10.6	15.1
\$12,000 to \$14,999.....	14.4	10.4	10.2	5.1	10.2
\$15,000 to \$24,999.....	19.5	9.4	8.6	4.5	20.6
\$25,000 and over.....	5.3	0.9	0.5	0.8	0.8
Median income.....dollars..	10,285	7,548	7,486	6,185	9,371
Head year-round, full-time worker:					
Median family income...dollars..	12,436	9,596	9,472	8,235	11,298
Percent of all families.....	63.5	57.0	57.5	50.7	61.9

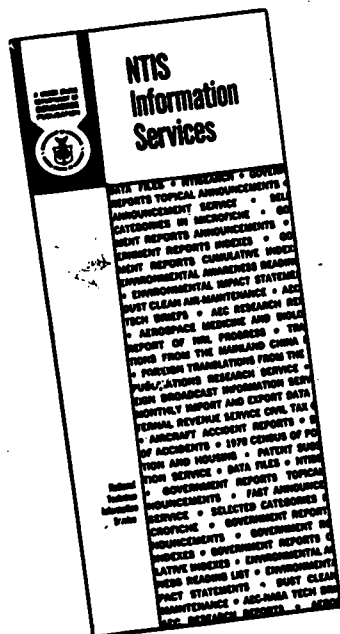
¹Includes other persons of Spanish origin, not shown separately.

Table 10. Low-Income Status in 1971 of Persons of Spanish Origin for the United States and Five Southwestern States: March 1972

(Numbers in thousands. Excludes unrelated individuals under 14 years old)

Origin	Total	Below the low-income level	
		Number	Percent
UNITED STATES			
All persons.....	204,554	25,559	12.5
Persons of Spanish origin.....	9,178	2,350	25.6
Mexican.....	5,234	1,520	28.9
Puerto Rican.....	1,518	489	32.2
Cuban.....	629	74	11.8
Other.....	1,777	266	15.0
Persons not of Spanish origin.....	195,376	23,209	11.9
FIVE SOUTHWESTERN STATES ¹			
All persons.....	36,842	4,699	12.8
Persons of Spanish origin.....	5,429	1,567	28.9
Mexican.....	4,549	1,388	30.5
Other.....	880	179	20.3
Persons not of Spanish origin.....	31,413	3,132	10.0

¹Arizona, California, Colorado, New Mexico, and Texas.



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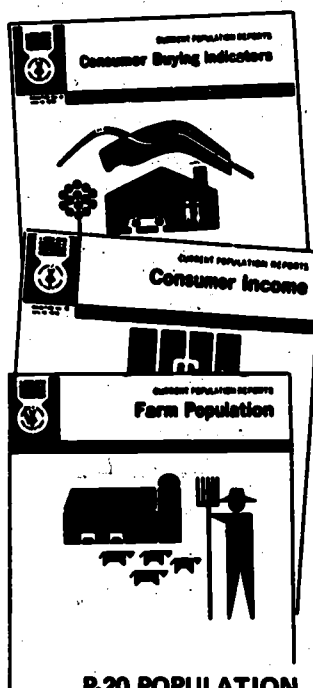
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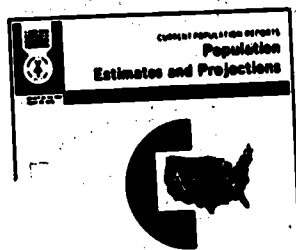
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